Bible & Daily Living

About risks and freedom of will

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
INVITATION TO A FEAST
Lesson for February 19, 1984
Bible Study Passages: Isaiah 55:1-3,6-11

Introduction

Keith Miller has compared faith to swinging on a trapeze. While hanging on and swinging our knuckles may turn white. Soon another trapeze appears before us. We look at it and wonder if we should transfer to the bar that swings within our grasp. Of course, we won't know what its like until we let go of the old to embrace the new. And that takes guts because of the risks involved.

Sometimes a new adventure comes our way but we pretend it isn't there. We don't want to entertain the idea of a new trapeze because we're afraid to let go our secure surroundings. Faith in God does not mean going through life without taking certain risks.

One of the most difficult lessons to learn in life is trusting God and his intentions for us. He extends an invitation to feast at his "table" of life. We are free to respond or to pass it up. Nearly every experience in life is calling us to make some sort of decision. Our relationship to Christ should never become static. It is very easy to lose our momentum and become satisfied with a ho hum faith.

Invitation To Be Filled (Isaiah 55:1-3)

Can you recall the last time you really thristed after knowledge of God? Do you remember a particularly painful time in your life when your faith made the difference in the outcome?

When Isaiah prophecied to the people of Israel, he encouraged them to eat and drink freely of God's bountiful supply of grace. But they were so comfortable in exile under the Babylonians that they did not want to risk even that safety for the promise of a return to their native homeland.

There is a saying about horses, namely, you can lead a horse to the water but you can't make him drink! This is true of people, especially God's people. The preacher may point the way but he/she can't force someone to take the step forward.

SEEK THE LORD [Isaiah 55:4-7]

Israel could never return home without confession and repentance of their sin. This is a difficult choice for many people, namely, to own responsibility for one's behavior. We do not normally like to admit to wrong-doing. We are more geared to winning than to losing in our society. We do not find it easy to admit to our sinful behavior.

The act of procrastination or hesitation is a sin in and of itself. God calls and then waits for our response. To ignore his call to repentance or, to borrow the idea of the trapeze, to refuse to take a risk and alter one's course is to commit the sin of unbelief.

God is always taking the initiative toward us. We can choose to respond to his initiative or not, but we must then live with the consequences of our choice.

HIS CHOICE [Isaiah 55:8-11]

God always makes good his promises. There will be occasions when we are surprised at God's ability to turn the bad to our good or to direct our path through an uncertain journey. Too often we rely too heavily upon our own sense of direction than the Lord's. But he knows what is right for his children. He will not lead where he is not willing to go. He proved that when he sent Christ to die on a cross.

Members may choose to discuss the following questions in light of this passage.

*What does it mean that God's word will not return to him void?

* List reasons as to why it is difficult to make major changes in our life.

* List reasons as to why it is sometimes hard to change our views of faith and God.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP)

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Times-Virginian WORSHIP

Singing Burrells schedule concert at Central Baptist

The Singing Burrell's will be in concert at Central Baptist Church, on Route 694, on Sunday, Feb. 19, at 11 a.m.

The public is invited to attend this concert.

Death Notices

Alice Cash Adams

Mrs. Alice Cash Adams, 70, of Pamplin, died Sunday, January 29, 1984 at the University of Virginia Hospital in Charlottesville. She was the wife of the late Raleigh Martin Adams.

Born in Amherst County, Va., a daughter of the late Lawrence Kinckle Cash and Cammie Whitesell Cash. Mrs. Adams was a member of Elon Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School. She was a member of the Pamplin Chapter, AARP and had serve as past president of this group.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Lawrence Wade and Katie G. Adams of Pamplin; two granddaughters, Cheryl S. Strong, Norfolk; Gina A. Mitchell, Pamplin; one sister Mrs. Cleo C. Joyner; Courtland; six brothers, L. W. Cash, Madisonville; John S. Cash and H. L. Cash both of Silver Springs, Colorado; E. W. Cash, South Boston; L.L. Cash, Greensboro, N. C.; B. B. Cash, Dolphin, Ala.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Thursday, February 2, 1984 at Elon Baptist Church by the Rev. Danny Owen and the Rev. Clarence Bowen. Burial took place in Spring Creek Baptist Church cemetery at Darlington Heights.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

J. Kyle Booth

J. Kyle Booth, 57, of Route 1, Concord, died Wednesday, Feb. 8.

He was born in Campbell County, the son of the late William S. Booth and Bernice Coleman Booth. He was the co-owner of Booth and Moses Grocery Store in Rustburg, an Army veteran of World War II, and a member of New Chapel Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Bettie Cox Booth; two daughters, Crysti Lee Booth and Cindy Dawn Booth; one brother, Billy Booth and one sister, Annie Booth Thompson, all of Concord.

A funeral service was conducted from New Chapel Baptist Church Saturday at 2 p.m. by the Revs. Carroll Welch and Douglas Gibson. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Diuguid Waterlick Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

John Massie Christian, Jr.

John Massie Christian Jr., 63, of Route 1, Monroe, died Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12 in Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Born in Dallas, Texas, he was the son of the late John Massie Christian and Ruth Mays Christian. He was a member of Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church and was retired from the American Cyanamid Co. He was a member of Mount Pleasant Odd Fellows Lodge and was a veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys Campbell Christian; a son, James Massie Christian, Madison Heights; two daughters, Mrs. Otis E. (Rose Marie) Hall, Jr., Lynchburg and Mrs. Vincent W. (JoAnne) Campbell, Roseland; four brothers, Cecil B. Christian of Auburndale, Fla., Lloyd B. Christian, New Kent, Jerry D. Christian of Charleston, S. C.; and C. Alvin Christian of Savannah, Ga., seven sisters, Mrs. Edward G. Staples, Madison Heights, Mrs. Conrad M. Guthrie, Waynesboro, Mrs. Issac B. Dodson, Richmond, Mrs. Kenneth E. Warner, Amherst, Mrs. Phyllis C. Massie of Concord, Mrs. Charles Koch Jr. of Goldsboro, N. C. and Mrs. R. Kent Hudson, Jr., Chesterfield, and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at 2 p.m. from Driskill Funeral Chapel with interment in Fort Hill Memorial Park.

Driskill Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Emma Lee Love Crowther

Emma Lee Love Crowther, Houston, Tex., daughter of the late John L. Love and Carolyn Revelle Love of Appomattox, died Feb. 7, 1984.

She is survived by three children, Wayne, Lynette, and Charlotte, all of Texas; four grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Cook, Houston, Tex., and Mrs. Dorothy Morris, Appomattox.

Funeral services were held Friday at 11 a.m. at Colonial Funeral Home in Pasadena, Tex.

Evelyn Banton Cunningham

Evelyn Roberta Banton Cunningham, 66, of 1911 Hughes Ave., Lynchburg, died Sunday night in Lynchburg General Hospital.

Born in Nelson County, she was a daughter of the late Charlie David Banton and Carrie Banton Banton. She was a member of Mineral Springs Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by two brothers, John Banton and Wayne Banton.

She is survived by three sons, William Cunningham of Richmond, Ray Cunningham of Quinton and Cosby Cunningham Jr. of Phoenix, Ariz.; four daughters, Mrs. Russell (Marie) Powell of Lynchburg, Mrs. John (Shirley) Gunter of Gladstone and Mrs. Nelson (Linda) Trent and Mrs. Randy (Faye) Cox, both of Richmond; two sisters, Mrs. Ruby Bethel of Amherst and Mrs. Ella Maxey of Dillwyn; 17 grandchildren; one stepgrandchild and 13 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was conducted Wednesday at 2 p.m. from Driskill Funeral Chapel, Amherst, by the Revs. Mark Bianchi and Ralph Jackson. Interment was in Mineral Springs Baptist Church cemetery.

Driskill Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Kors Droog

Kors Droog, 70, of 110 Page St., Lynchburg, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 1984, in Lynchburg General Hospital. He was the husband of Carrie Lloyd Droog. His first wife was the late Ellen Dobyns Droog.

Born in Saskatchewan, Canada, he was a son of the late Jacob Drood and Johanna vanHerk Droog. He was a retired employee of Marvin Templeton & Sons and was a member of Leawood Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, David Allen Droog, Rustburg; two daughters, Mrs. Mervin (Mary Ellen) Wynkoop, Mt. Jackson, and Mrs. James (Judy) Evans, Concord; three brothers, Jacob Droog and Teunis Droog, both of Lynchburg, and Adrian Droog, Forest; two sisters, Jennie Coleman, Appomattox, and Marie Nichols, Lynchburg; nine stepchildren, 36 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Monday in Whitten Park Avenue Chapel by the Rev. H. Rondel Rumburg. Interment was in Rustburg Cemetery.

Whitten Park Avenue Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Frank Allen Goin

Frank Allen Goin of Appomattox, died Friday, Feb. 10, 1984 at his home.

Born in Appomattox County Aprill, 1918, he was a son of the late DeWitt Goin and Katie Greb Goin. He was a lifelong member of Walkers Presbyterian Church and a retired farmer.

He is survived by his wife, Eunice Brown Goin; three daughters, Mrs. Marjorie E. Glover, Pamplin, Mrs. Dianiah M. Lowe, Appomattox and Mrs. Shelia A. Reavis, Weldon, N. C.; one son, Jack A. Goin, Appomattox; a sister, Evie C. Harris, Appomattox; two brothers, John H. Goin and Conrad J. Goin, Prospect; his stepmother, Mrs. Alice B. Goin, Appomattox; six half sisters, Katie Adams, Pamplin, Rachel Harris, Goochland, Nan Farinholt, Surry, Mary Lucas, Richmond, Barbara Dickerson, Prospect and Margaret Guido, Fredericksburg; six half brothers, Joseph Marshall, Lester Leon, Guido and Steve Goin all of Appomattox and Hunter Goin of Prospect and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 2 p.m. at Walkers Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Millard Stimpson. Burial was in the Goin family cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Rena Roberts Glover

Rena Roberts Glover, 89, Route 1, Pamplin, died early Thursday, Feb. 9, at her residence. She was the wife of the late Marvin Agee Glover Sr.

Born in Grayson County, she was the daughter of the late Troy Mitchell Roberts and Rachel Parks Roberts. She was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church in Buckingham County.

She is survived by three sons, Marvin A. Glover, Jr. and Carl M. Glover, of Pamplin, and Fred C. Glover, Madison, Wis., and eight grandchidlren.

Funeral services were held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Bethel Methodist Church, with burial in the church cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Shelia Louanne Windle Hale

Shelia Louanne Windle Hale, 21, of Route 3, Lynchburg, died Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1984, in Campbell County as a result of injuries sustained in an auto accident. She was the wife of Gary Wayne (Tyke) Hale.

Born in Pulaski County, she was a daughter of James William (Billy) Windle Sr. and Virginia Brown (Jenny Lou) Windle of Lynchburg. She was an employee of the Kroger Company and was a member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church.

In addition to her husband and parents, she is survived by two brothers, Jimmy Windle, Concord and David Windle, Dublin; her paternal grandparents are John R. and Frances Windle, Draper; her maternal grandfather, Herman H. Brown, Draper; her maternal grandmother, Blanche R. Brown, Dublin; two nephews, Jamie and Jason Windle, Concord; two sisters-in-law, Susie B. Windle, Concord and Joni Hale, Lynchburg.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Friday in Whitten Park Avenue Chapel by the Rev. Charles H. Comer. Interment was in Fort Hill Memorial Park.

Whitten Park Avenue Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Eunice E. Harris

Eunice E. Harris, a resident of Westminster-Canterbury of Lynchburg and a daughter of the late Thomas

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TINA BOHANNON, JACK WILLIAMS, SUSAN GOGGIN, AND MARY JANE LANN (left to right) are shown with certificates won in the annual DECA Leadership Conference held Feb. 7 and 8.

DE students honored

Several Appomattox County High School students represented the Appomattox Distributive Education Chapter at the annual Distributive Education Clubs of America District Leadership Conference, which was held in Appomattox Feb. 7 and at River Ridge Mall Feb. 8.

Tina Bohannon competed and won second place honors in the communications event, which was held at Appomattox Hardware. Sherry Purcell and Dale Robinson represented ACHS in the selling event at Whites Auto. Sherry was also awarded a second-place trophy. Benny Beasley and Donna Davis were in the job interview competition and Patricia Lewis and Tersa Everton were in the sales demonstration event. These events were held at ACHS.

In the food marketing supervisory event, Susan Goggin and Jack Williams dominated the competition by receiving several ribbons, certificates and trophies. Jack Williams was rated number 2 in the entire district in this event, only to be outdone by classmate Susan Goggin, who received first place honors. Mary Jane Lann participated in the apparel and accessories supervisory event and received several honors including being rated number 2 in the district.

Susan Goggin will represent ACHS and the district in the State Leadership Conference in Roanoke March 23-25. Other schools participating in these competitions were Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, E.C. Glass, Heritage, Jefferson Forest, Liberty and Prince Edward.

Mr. John McHale, DECA advisor at ACHS, complimented all of the students. "Everyone deserves a lot of credit for their participation in these competitions. I have a great deal of pride in my students for their accomplishments and for the way they represented ACHS," he said.

AMS students learn about juvenile court system

The eighth-grade special interest students at Appomattox Middle School have been involved in a simulation dealing with the juvenile court system and teenage theft.

The students studied how the juvenile court system differs from adult court, and the circumstances, problems and laws related to teenage theft.

At the close of the unit, the students participated in a mock juvenile trial. The students prepared themselves to play various roles: baliff, probation officer, defense witness, character witness, prosecuting attorney, defense attorney, and prosecution witness.

Bruce Williams, probation officer, was the trial judge. The excitement intensified as the students became involved in the roles and tried to influence the judge's handling of the juvenile's case.

Mrs. Clabough shows students math puzzles

Jeannie Clabough recently demonstrated a variety of mechanical puzzles to special-interest students at Appomattox Middle School.

The puzzles belonged to her father, the late L.D. Whitaker, a retired veterinarian, from Farmville. The puzzles were featured in an article in "Scientific American," and a book, Mathematical Puzzles and Diversions, by Martin Gardner.

One of the few people in the world who could work Dr. Whitaker's wooden puzzle boxes was Mr. Lester Grimes, a retires engineer and amateur magician who had worked on the stage with Houdini. Mr. Grines lived in New York and was considered to have the largest puzzle collection in the world. Dr. Whitaker periodically sent Mr. Grimes a puzzle. If Mr. Grimes worked the puzzle he could keep it. If he could not work it, he had to pay Dr. Whitaker. Various side bets were also made on the amount of time it took to solve the puzzles.

Mrs. Clabough also brought a collection of Egyptian wedding rings. This type of puzzle consists of four to 13 bands interlocked ingeniously into a ring. The Egyptian women were given the rings by their husbands. If the women took the rings off their fingers when their husbands were away, the bands came apart. It was very hard to fit the bands back together into a ring.

Mt. Pleasant news notes

By ODELL CHAMBERS

Many visitors were on hand at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Sunday to hear pastor Napier deliver the sermon, "Let your walking do the talking."

The Sunshine Choir rendered music. The Sunshine Choir will be on the talent program the first Sunday in March at 3 p.m.

The Pastor's Aid Club will celebrate its sixth anniversary the third Sunday in March at 3 p.m. The Rev. John Edward will be guest speaker, and the Zion Baptist Church Senior Choir will provide music. Please plan to attend.

We are happy to report that Barnett Saunders' daughter, Alfreda is improving in Lynchburg General Hospital.

We are praying for the sick and the shut-in everywhere.

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